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15 January 1980

Worldwide Report

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

No. 103



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE REPORT
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YUGOSLAVIA REPORTS ON NONALINED INFORMATION POOL CONFERENCE

Bajra on Need for Cooperation

AU292200 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 20 Nov 79 p 7 AU

[Summary] Belgrade, 19 November--After the festive opening of the 2-day Coordination Committee Conference of the Pool of the News Agencies of Nonaligned Countries, Ismail Bajra, federal secretary for information, greeted the delegates present. In a short speech he pointed out the importance of cooperation of nonaligned countries in the field of information. Among other things Bajra said:

"Although it is known to all of us how great the contribution of the pool is to the establishment, strengthening and advancement of cooperation in the field of information among the nonaligned countries and in a wider field, I would stress again on this occasion that in essence it is a matter of a form of cooperation that in a historically seen, short period achieved very notable successes precisely in the development of concrete forms and methods of cooperation. The pool--as the broadest democratic form of the exchange of news and information, as well as an integral part of an organized and coordinated cooperation of the nonaligned countries in almost all the spheres of information--has contributed not only to the affirmation of national sources of news and information but also encouraged above all the formation of national news agencies in countries where they did not exist. It also pointed out the need to solve many key problems of the development of the system of information and of public information media at a national level."

The original number of news agencies in the pool was 11, and now there are 57 actively participating in it. About 20 news agencies have been formed since the establishment of the pool.

The gap between the developed and underdeveloped countries is manifestly present and the reasons for it are known.

"This undoubtedly indicates that the pool has arisen as a historical necessity and an integral part of the struggle for the political, economic, cultural, information and technical and technological independence of peoples and countries, for the elimination of the grave consequences of colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism, hegemonism, racism, apartheid, Zionism, policy of force and all other forms of exploitation and domination. Thanks to the developed mass communications, material and technical and technological opportunities, the developed countries still possess a certain monopoly over information, for the process of information runs tendentially and in one direction from the developed to the underdeveloped countries. The pool therefore arose as a group of independent and

nonaligned news agencies that joined all their cadre, technical and other potentials and formed a joint service intended to inform the public of their own countries and the world public at large about the trends in their countries and their joint activities in the international field.

"As is known, from the very beginning the creation and the activities of the pool met with significant resistance, which in the form of most varied pressures by bloc groups and all those who wish and endeavor to maintain a monopoly in information have affected this activity of the nonaligned countries. This certainly was no accident since it reflects in essence the constellation of forces in the international field. The pool members have never declared themselves against the big news agencies and systems, but have always supported and continue to support them alone. They continue to support cooperation with all on an equal footing, on the basis of the original principles, aims and criteria of the nonaligned movement."

The commendation by the sixth summit of nonaligned countries constitutes an encouragement and an obligation. The fact that the second conference of the pool is held in the SPRY is a tribute to our country and to TANJUG.

'Tendentious' Soviet Coverage

LD031042 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1611 GMT 2 Dec 79 LD

["Another Reason Why the Pool Is Necessary"--TANJUG headline]

[Text] Belgrade, December 2 (TANJUG)--The Second Conference of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool attended by the delegations from 61 countries, was concluded in Belgrade a few days ago with complete agreement on all questions on its agenda. The conference was open to all foreign correspondents, permanent or special, and it provoked extensive reaction in the world press, although this reaction had different accents outside the non-aligned world.

The Soviet daily PRAVDA, however, was satisfied with publishing at the end of the conference, the one and only information on its work and this citing TASS. In two sentences, PRAVDA singled out the criticism addressed to the [word indistinct] Western news agencies and pointed to the [word indistinct] imperialist monopoly of information".

In continuation, citing the proposal of an [word indistinct] delegation to "freeze" the pool membership of the Egyptian MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY (MENA), PRAVDA writes: "However, the chairman of the conference, director of the Yugoslav news agency TANJUG, opposed this proposal".

And this was all that PRAVDA published about the pool conference. What may be seen from this, in addition to the obvious tendentiousness of the information, is the paper's intention to do what it cannot do--sow doubts about our relations with the Arab countries and news agencies. The information published in PRAVDA is an example of a half-truth quickly turning into misinformation. For the truth about the consideration at the pool conference of relations with the Egyptian news agency MENA is as follows:

In adopting a report submitted by the pool Coordination Committee, the meeting of which directly preceded the conference, the conference delegates also adopted the report on relations with the Egyptian news agency MENA, got informed about the conclusions of the Federation of Arab News Agencies concerning the Egyptian agency and took their position in conformity with the decisions of the non-aligned summit in Havana and the pool statute, while proceeding from the stand that participating in the pool are the national news agencies of the countries which participate in the summit conferences of the non-aligned countries.

The statement cited by PRAVDA concerns the Egyptian news agency's candidature for membership of the new Coordination Committee of the pool. On the occasion, the chairman of the conference, director of TANJUS recalled that the conference, in adopting the coordination committee report, took the position on MENA's participation in the pool work, while the item on the agenda is discussion on the agency's candidature for membership of the Coordination Committee.

Nobody had any objection and the discussion on the election of the Coordination Committee members continued. There is nothing of this in either PRAVDA or TASS, nor do they mention the fact that the conference chairman gave, at the end of the discussion, an explanation which was also accepted unanimously, to the effect that no consensus had been reached on the candidature of the Egyptian news agency. He noted therefore that MENA (?was not) elected to the Coordination Committee and asked that another from amongst the African news agencies be elected in its place. This was subsequently done.

Soviet correspondents also failed to notice the acknowledgement unanimously expressed at the end of the conference for the democratic and efficient conduct of its work, and that the chairman in point was elected with agreement of all the delegations as chairman of the pool Coordination Committee for the next three-year term.

This latest misinformation of PRAVDA and TASS may be taken as an example and a proof of the justified nature of the non-aligned news agencies' commitment to developing cooperation among themselves also through the collective forms such as the pool, while striving in this manner for the elimination of the foreign monopolies of "truth" and the ensurance of their basic rights to offer the truth about themselves not only to the non-aligned but also beyond. This is the reason why, after any misinformation of this kind, no matter what side it comes from, our conviction about the meaning and significance of the pool's existence and development is becoming stronger. This time, a contribution to the strengthening of this conviction was given, albeit unintentionally, by PRAVDA and TASS.

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

YUGOSLAVIA REPORTS FURTHER ON NONALIGNED BROADCASTING COOPERATION TALKS

Cooperation Committee Meeting

AU131753 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 12 Dec 79 p 14 AU

[Summary] Belgrade, 11 December, TANJUG--Today in Belgrade the Committee for Cooperation of Radio Broadcasting Organizations of Nonaligned Countries opened its fifth meeting, which is being attended by representatives of 21 nonaligned countries. During its 3-day session the committee "will evaluate the past results of cooperation in the field of information and prepare the necessary materials for the Second Conference of Nonaligned Countries' Broadcasting Organizations which is to be held in Sierra Leone next year."

Greeting the members of the committee at their Belgrade meeting, Ismail Bajra, federal secretary for information, pointed out that "the cooperation of radio broadcasting organizations within the framework of general cooperation of nonaligned countries in the field of information" promotes closer ties among them and thereby also contributes to "abolishing the monopoly of big world agencies in the field." Bajra emphasized "the multiple significance" of the committee's meeting in a period after and on the eve of other important nonaligned meetings, the Havana summit conference and the recent Second Conference of the Nonaligned Countries' News Agencies Pool and the Second Conference of Nonaligned Countries' Broadcasting Organizations, and "particularly stressed that the sixth summit conference of nonaligned countries in Havana highly and positively appraised the cooperation of nonaligned countries in the field of information and telecommunications and expressed its full political support for future activities in the field."

End of Talks

LD142042 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1757 GMT 14 Dec 79 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Belgrade, Dec. 14 (TANJUG)--The fifth meeting of the Committee for Cooperation Among Non-Aligned Countries Broadcasting Organizations ended with a plenary session in the Belgrade Sava Centre today. At the closing plenary session today, the committee adopted reports and draft documents prepared by the commissions for technical questions and for preparations for the Second Conference of Non-Aligned Countries' Broadcasting Organizations. The committee decided to propose to the Second Conference of Non-Aligned Countries' Broadcasting Organizations, to be held in Sierra Leone in March, to adopt, as its two basic documents, a report on cooperation among broadcasting organizations in between the two conferences and a final [word indistinct].

The committee charged its chairman to distribute the draft documents for the second conference to all non-aligned countries' broadcasting organizations. On the basis of suggestions received from broadcasting organizations, the committee will, at its sixth meeting prior to the Sierra Leone conference, adopt the final texts of the draft documents.

The Belgrade meeting of the Committee for Cooperation Among Non-Aligned Countries' Broadcasting Organizations was held soon after the sixth non-aligned summit in Havana and the Second Conference of Non-Aligned Countries' News Agencies Pool in Belgrade and at the time of serious preparations for the Second Conference of Non-Aligned Countries Broadcasting Organizations. Representatives of broadcasting organizations of 25 non-aligned countries participated in the Belgrade meeting.

At the plenary session today, the committee adopted a report of a group of experts on the results of the recent, First World Conference on Radio Communication in Geneva. The report sets out that an organized action of non-aligned countries' broadcasting organizations was in evidence for the first time at the Geneva conference. In the context of a broader action of the non-aligned for changing the present international communications and information order, the committee adopted a proposal on concrete forms on cooperation among non-aligned countries' broadcasting organizations and news agencies. The proposal stresses the need for giving priority to the non-aligned countries' news agency pool information, especially those about the non-aligned countries.

The committee also considered the questions of a study on the training of personnel for the needs of non-aligned countries' broadcasting organizations, or organizing a radio and television festival of the non-aligned and of the activity of a broadcasting organizations, of organizing a radio and television festival of the non-aligned and of the activity of a broadcasting organizations programme bank.

The participants in the fifth meeting of the Committee for Cooperation Among Non-Aligned Countries' Broadcasting Organizations today sent a telegramme of greetings to President Tito, conveying their deep respect and gratitude for the Yugoslav president's role in strengthening the nonaligned movement and in the struggle for establishing a new world order founded on justice and equality.

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

REPORTAGE ON NONALINED NEWS AGENCIES CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Coordination Committee Elected

AU271042 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2117 GMT 24 Nov 79 AU

[Text] Belgrade, Nov 24, (TANJUG)--At the closing session this evening, delegates to the Second Conference of Non-Aligned Countries' News Agency Pool and government representatives elected the new pool Coordination Committee: 10 from Africa, 8 from Asia, 5 from Latin America and 2 from Europe.

The new members of the pool Coordination Committee are: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the PLO, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Cuba, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Rwanda, Togo, Senegal, Mauritius, Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia, Tunisia, Sudan, Libya, Cyprus and Yugoslavia.

In the original African group's proposal Egypt was included as a candidate but its candidacy was rejected by the Arab countries. Africa originally proposed 11 candidates for ten seats in the Coordination Committee. Sudan, however, withdrew as a candidate in order to enable a smooth election of the new committee. After conference Chairman Pero Ivacic established the lack of accord on the proposal for Egypt to be elected to the Coordination Committee, Sudan, invited by the African group chairman, accepted its previous candidacy.

PLO, Egyptian Delegates Clash

AU262210 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 24 Nov 79 p 1 AU

[B. Marijanac report]

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 23 November--This morning at the Sava center the Second Conference of the Nonaligned Countries' News Agencies Pool and of representatives of the governments of nonaligned countries continued its work with the general debate on the past 3-year period of the pool's activities and the prospects for its further development and a closer cooperation between the news agencies involved.

All participants in the discussion at the morning session at the Sava center (there were 15 of them) expressed their satisfaction with the successful development of information exchange among nonaligned countries and the pool's increasingly greater role in the existing information system. A resolute support for strengthening cooperation between nonaligned countries was also pointed out.

At this morning's session the PLO delegate spoke on the suffering of the Palestinian people and in this connection sharply condemned the Camp David agreement. The representative of the Egyptian MENA agency reacted briskly to his speech and characterized it as "a political problem which is not on the agenda of this meeting." Following the intervention by several delegates and a proposal by Malta's delegate, the presidium of the session allowed the PLO representative to proceed and Egypt's representatives reserved their right to reply.

Pool Members Attack 'MENA'

AU281945 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 27 Nov 79 p 3 AU

[Correspondent Christine von Kohl report]

[Excerpt] Belgrade --At the nonaligned summit in Havana this summer the Arab states demanded the expulsion of the Egyptian MENA news agency. In the Coordination Committee, which met directly before the conference, a group led by Indian Chairman Manekar succeeded in heading off this motion with the following arguments: The pool is not a political but a professional forum; Egypt is a member of the nonaligned movement whose potential expulsion will only be discussed at next year's ministerial Conference, in line with the Havana decisions; every member is entitled to equal treatment.

At the Plenary Session under Yugoslav chairmanship, however, the Arab states and especially the PLO were not prevented from blasting the "traitor", Egypt, with long political declarations. Virtually in the last hour of the conference, on Saturday evening [24 November], this group succeeded in expressly excluding MENA from the Coordination Committee which in Belgrade was expanded from 15 to 25 members. The Yugoslav mass media did not say a single word about this important development.

Managua Picked for Next Conference

PA260444 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Nov 79 PA

[Text] Managua, Nicaragua's capital, has been chosen as the seat of the third conference of the nonaligned countries' news agency pool. The agreement was reached during the organization's second meeting, which closed today in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

During the recently concluded [words indistinct] the pool's new statutes and the countries of our hemisphere voiced their decision to create the Latin American federation of news agencies. The Belgrade meeting also called for a continuous flow of information among nonaligned countries in keeping with the decisions made at the movement's sixth summit held here in Havana last September.

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

BELGRADE RADIO DESCRIBES AIMS OF NONALINED NEWS AGENCIES POOL

AU242053 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 24 Nov 79 AU

[Commentary by Branko Rabrenovic]

[Text] Apropos of our country's relations with the world let us immediately say that the Second Conference of the Pool of News Agencies of the Nonaligned Countries and representatives of the governments of the nonaligned countries ought to conclude in the Sava Center in Belgrade tonight. Branko Rabrenovic reports on the work of the conference.

The process of decolonization, which has been strongly in the ascendancy since the sixties has not yet definitely reached its end with a victory over the forces of reaction and dependence and over division and paternalism. If a decolonization of countries and territories has been carried out to a certain extent, it is certain that practically nothing has been done on decolonizing economic relations, and until recently the least of all on decolonizing information. For decades, only a few news agencies--AP, AFP, UPI and REUTERS--have been filling the world with their information, their view of events, their positions and their solutions.

For decades, for instance, people in Chad, Peru, Pakistan and Zambia have learned by means of the news agencies in London, New York or Paris what is happening in their country, or a few kilometers away from their own homes.

The pool of the news agencies of the nonaligned countries founded 3 years ago is one of the most important factors in the struggle for total decolonization, in view of the fact that it embarked on the struggle for decolonizing a very important sphere in world relations, on the struggle for a decolonization of information.

President Tito's message to the Second Conference of the Pool of News Agencies of the Nonaligned Countries says, among other things, that cooperation in the field of information is an integral part of the struggle of the nonaligned countries to create more just international political and economic relations. The pool began with 12 news agencies, while now 54 news agencies work in the pool and as many delegations are attending the second conference in Belgrade.

With its 40,000 words transmitted daily, compared with 35 million words transmitted by the four largest news agencies in the world, the pool of the nonaligned countries may appear very small. However, the truth which one likes and in which one believes, even when whispered, is worth more and is more engaging, than when the circumvention of truth is blazed abroad.

The Belgrade meeting of representatives of news agencies of nonaligned countries, therefore, had no intention of declaring a war on the powerful men of news and influence on world public opinion. The desire of the meeting has been, as was unanimously expressed, to put things in their places and to say: Information is a component part of the struggle for political and economic independence; an equitable flow of information and the creation of a new information system is an imperative to this world; monopoly and one-sided, tendentious information are the remnants of colonial relations in the world.

The pool of the nonaligned countries is a challenge for the great world news agencies, but judging by the very working atmosphere which has prevailed in the Belgrade Sava Center, the day is not far away when, for instance, information between the Togolese capital Lome and the Benin capital Porto Novo, which are only 48 kilometers apart, will be exchanged directly and not via London as heretofore.

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

MEDITERRANEAN NONALINED COUNTRIES ADOPT BROADCASTING PROGRAM

LD081244 Valetta Radio Mediterran in English 0700 GMT 8 Dec 79 LD

[Text] A meeting of broadcasting organizations from the Mediterranean nonalined countries of Malta, Algeria, Libya, Yugoslavia and Tunisia was held in Malta this week. The main aim of the meeting was to finalize arrangements for the setting up in Malta of a radio and television program bank for all Mediterranean nonalined countries. The meeting drafted a statute to regulate the running, functions and aims of the bank and finalized the report on the bank's main requirements during its formative years. Documents were also considered of detailed financial aspects of the running of such a project.

It is planned that the bank would not only gather and distribute radio and television programs, but also plan and coordinate programs produced jointly by member countries. All documents emanating from the Malta meeting will now be submitted to the fifth conference of nonalined broadcasting organizations, which is scheduled to open in Belgrade next Tuesday. The finalized project will also be submitted to the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNESCO, which has been taking a great interest in the project since it was first (brought up) 2 years ago.

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

'TANJUG,' 'PARS' AGENCY SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT

LD272038 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 27 Nov
79 LD

[Text] Belgrade--Pero Ivacic, director of TANJUG, and Bashi Behzad, deputy director of PARS, today signed the first agreement on cooperation and exchange of information between TANJUG and the Iranian PARS news agency.

TANJUG and PARS agreed to exchange their services with the aim of developing the multi-lateral system of information organized by rationalized countries within the framework of the news agencies pool. The agreement also provides for the exchange of features, bulletins and reportages between the Iranian and Yugoslav news agencies.

With the aim of carrying out the decisions of the Second Conference of the News Agencies Pool, the two sides agreed to cooperate closely in order to achieve a constant improvement of cooperation and exchange of services.

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

AGREEMENTS REACHED IN BALKAN COMMUNICATION MEETING

TA291653 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 29 Nov 79 TA

[Text] It has been announced that agreement was reached on certain subjects during a communications conference among Balkan countries held in Ankara at Turkey's initiative. A statement by the Foreign Ministry says that officials of the Balkan countries reached agreement on cooperation for more efficient postal services. Agreement was also reached on examining a proposal for reduced postal rates among Balkan countries. The statement adds that an agreement was reached for cooperation in the field of philately among the Balkan countries and for exerting all possible efforts to make all communication services among Balkan countries automatic. The statement also says that experts participating in the conference have agreed on seeking possibilities for charging preferential tariffs for communication services among the Balkan countries.

The statement concludes by saying that the experts agreed to continue contacts in order to implement the regular broadcasts and the use and testing of frequencies. Delegations from Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania, Yugoslavia and Greece attended the meeting.

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

DJURANOVIC ADDRESSES OPENING SESSION OF NEWS AGENCIES POOL

LD231008 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1044 GMT
22 Nov 79 LD

[Speech by Veselin Djuranovic, president of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, at the second conference of the Nonaligned News Agencies' Pool in Belgrade]

[Excerpts] Belgrade--Esteemed friends: I wish to express my particular pleasure at being able to convey to you cordial greetings on behalf of the Federal Executive Council [SIV] and on my own behalf, and to wish the Second Conference of the Nonaligned Countries News Agencies Pool complete success in its work. I also wish you a pleasant stay in our capital city and in our country.

The importance of your conference is emphasized further by the fact that it is in fact the first meeting of representatives of the nonaligned countries, following shortly the sixth conference of heads of state or government of the nonaligned countries held in Havana last September. In this sense it represents the continuation of the activities of the nonaligned on the international level and in the search for the best ways and means of promoting their mutual cooperation. The news agencies pool, as a very concrete form of cooperation between the nonaligned, is of multilateral importance for this cooperation, for it insures better mutual knowledge between these countries and peoples, and also the acquaintance of all other countries. The pool, therefore contributes to friendship both between the nonaligned, and between the nonaligned and all other countries and peoples.

In this complex and great process of independence and freedom, which has today become a process of world dimensions and character, given the giant dimensions of the nonaligned movement in the number of states and peoples it comprises, in this process, the role of the information media is truly great, exceptional and uniform, but also complex. Indeed, without independence on the level of information, without the right and opportunity of each country to tell the world the truth about itself, it would be impossible to gain a true picture of the efforts being made to develop countries, and to regard in entirety these countries' involvement in international affairs. It was therefore rightly assessed at the fifth summit of the nonaligned in Colombo that the establishment of independence and the development of national information media are an integral part of the general struggle for political and economic independence.

It is from this point of departure that we regard and give a very high assessment of the formation of the Nonaligned Countries News Agencies Pool in January 1975, and the fact that in the past few years a very great deal has been done to develop the pool and to affirm it on the broadest international level. We consider that the formation of the pool and its activity represent a major event in the struggle for a new international information order, and the significance of this movement was equated with the new international economic order at the summit in Colombo, as is well known.

From all that I have said above, there derives the major and very responsible task which you, as the most responsible representatives of pool agency members or of governmental information structures, face in realizing the function of news agencies. This is the task of insuring a balanced and equitable many-sided flow of information, in order that the nonaligned countries should present themselves to the world in the right light. Such activity is motivated by the need of modern mankind for better mutual understanding, for development of universal cooperation and friendship between peoples in the world.

The emancipation of information and the creation of a new information order are a direct function of such a vision of the world and are in the interest of the entire international community.

Your task is all the more complex in that the pool's activities are not welcomed on all sides of the world, that is primarily and exclusively in those structures which are oriented toward the blocs and which wish to maintain the monopoly over information which is a function of their bloc policy and goals. Their aim to maintain the monopoly over presentation--in essence a one-sided and tendentious presentation--of that which takes place in the nonaligned and other developing countries is apparent precisely in their opposition to the news agencies pool. All the more so in that the members of the pool have never made any declarations against the big news agencies and systems, but have declared themselves for cooperation, though, of course, amid equality and respect.

Such an orientation on the part of the pool derives from the fact that it forms an integral part of the nonaligned movement and that all those noble and progressive principles making up the essence of that movement and its irreplaceable position in international relations as a whole are valid for the members of the pool. The pool, therefore, is not and cannot be any kind of supranational organism or organization, nor any kind of news monopoly, for it is precisely monopoly that it opposes. Your pool is not nor does it need to be linked to or reliant on the great information systems, for then it would not be a pool of nonaligned countries. It is a collection of independent news agencies who have pooled their cadre, technical and communication forces and have formed from their information material a joint service intended for the world public opinion and for their own peoples, in order precisely to safeguard one further element of the independence and equality of their countries. This is attained by strengthening the national information media, by reliance on their own forces, by mutual assistance and with the aid of the international community through the United Nations.

The heads of state or government of the nonaligned countries gave important assessments of your work and adopted stands on it at the sixth summit in Havana. For its part the Yugoslav Government will do everything within its power to carry out the decisions adopted at this meeting directed toward further strengthening the pool and enabling it to fulfill all its more major tasks.

Friends, we are very pleased that the second conference of the pool is being held in Yugoslavia. We consider this to be a recognition of the efforts made by our country and our news agency, TANJUG, in conjunction with all other nonaligned countries and with the agencies of all other nonaligned countries to achieve better and more just relations in the world.

In our country, too, we advocate further development and successful functioning of an integrated system of information and propaganda, as an integral part of the sociopolitical system of socialist self-management.

Major results have been achieved in the development--hitherto dynamic--of information activity in our country. In the SFRY today over 1.5 billion copies of newspapers and journals are printed annually; there are over 5 million television sets and about 4.5 million radio sets. Radio and television programs in the SFRY are prepared and broadcast in 11 languages of our nations and nationalities, and Yugoslav radio and television today cooperates with 28 radio and television organizations from 25 countries of the world.

The freedom of the press, radio and television in expressing the progressive aspirations of socialist self-managing development in our country can be limited by nothing except the responsibility and the obligations of information activity toward that development.

The role and responsibility of information activity, in particular of the press, radio and television, is irreplaceable in making more profound the equality, brotherhood and unity of our nations and nationalities, in fostering the revolutionary and other positive legacies of our society, and in developing further the socialist self-managing democracy and the nonaligned policy of our country.

Dear friends, the knowledge is very dear to us that in recent years the pool has become the broadest form of free information exchange and has helped to gradually break the monopoly enjoyed by just a small number of news agencies. It is to the joint credit of all agencies participating in the exchange of information in the pool that these important results have been achieved by now, although in such a short period of time. The very fact that over the last few years since the formation of the pool over 20 news agencies have been formed in countries where they had never existed before, demonstrates the interest taken in the pool and in strengthening it. Of course, the pool is confronted by numerous problems as, indeed, is the whole nonaligned movement. It is not a question just of pressures aimed at preventing the pool from becoming a mighty force enjoying equality in the world exchange of information, but also of the material, technical, cadre and other difficulties confronting you.

Your difficulties are objective ones, but the development and growth of the pool will proceed hand-in-hand with the development and growth of the nonaligned movement, that is of its member countries. The rapid development of national agencies from which the pool derives its strength as an organism uniting your efforts and opportunities is the great need of each nonaligned country. This, among other things, is because multilateral exchange of information insures correction of the imbalance in the information flow, and this is the basic prerequisite for fuller international affirmation and identification of the national and cultural characteristics of countries and peoples. I think that this is indivisibly linked with the creation of a climate of friendship and of cooperation on the broadest international level, toward creation of a climate of mutual trust and understanding.

All this may have a very beneficial effect on overall international relations, and it is therefore the duty of all news agencies, which means not only those in the nonaligned countries, to work and function in this spirit. This is the sole correct approach and contribution to the struggle for the formation of a new international information order, for it is incorrect and unjust to give others concepts and prescriptions as to how to conduct themselves and to criticize the pool for not obeying these concepts and prescriptions, but for seeking its own expression as an integral part of the independent national essences of the nonaligned countries.

Friends and comrades, in following the activities of the pool, I have had the opportunity to establish that in complex circumstances and in connection with complex issues of your work and development you have always found a common language, in the uniform aspiration to promote the pool further. This complexity derives from the complexity of international events and processes as a whole, and also from the fact that the nonaligned movement, and thereby also the nonaligned agencies pool, are not a bloc nor a monolithic organism, but a community of countries with varying social systems and levels of development, and primarily a democratic assembly of independent countries which expresses thus its standpoints and opinions. Independence is their prime common aim, and the strengthening of unity is the prerequisite for this goal to be achieved by common efforts. I am profoundly convinced that you proceed in this conference, too, from such points of departure of the nonaligned movement and nonaligned policy, and that this time, too, you will take a new step ahead in improving cooperation and thereby strengthening the pool. With such a conviction I greet you once more, and wish you fruitful results at your assembly, which will be of great significance for the peoples of all nonaligned countries.

CSO: 5500

NIGER: EXTENSIVE TELEVISION EXPANSION PLANS REVEALED

AB210955 Niamey LE SAHEL in French 15, 16 Dec 79 pp 1, 2, 3 AB

[Excerpts] The development of Niger's television which is being carried out in three phases (start, Phase I and Phase II) has been found to be entirely satisfactory by Niger authorities at this starting phase. The installation of the facilities for this phase is proceeding normally, and the equipment is projected to start operating in June 1980.

The 1979-1980 launching phase, at cost of 66 million CFA, financed by the FAC [Aid and Cooperation Fund] and the CCCE [Central Fund for Economic Cooperation] essentially comprises the following: the building of premises for a Nodal center and a laboratory for color development; color equipment for the central control room and for the broadcasting control room; purchase of a car for reporters and a news car; supply of film equipment; creation of three new broadcasting TV centers at Birni N'konni, Maradi and Zinder; installation of three television relay transmitters fed by solar energy; extension of microwave links for the transmission of television programs as far as Zinder; creation in rural zones of 350 community centers fed by solar generators; establishment--in electrified urban areas--of 120 community reception centers with television sets.

The study and the development of the projects were assigned to TDF. Around twenty contracts and more than 250 orders were prepared for the implementation of the installations.

Three conventions valued at 6.7 million CFA francs were concluded between TDF [Telediffusion of France] and ORTN [Niger Radio and Television Broadcasting Office] for the realization of the project, professional training and for the logistical support during the launching period.

After six months of preparatory work, color television broadcasts started in April 1979. The equipment is being installed and the total planned equipment will start operating in June 1980.

Under the leadership of a project chief, 50 technicians from TDF are working on the main parts of the project. A representative of TDF, who resides in Niamey, supervises the work.

It must be said that the Niger authorities are very pleased with the rapid realization of the project and the process adopted for the management of contracts. A meeting on the extension of the tele-communications network and the development of television was held at the Ministry of Cooperation 5 and 6 December 1979. The purpose of that meeting was to define ways to implement Phase I of the project which was studied by SOFRECOM and TDF and which comprises: an international earth station in Niamey; three domestic earth stations in Niamey, Agadez and Bilma; four broadcasting transmitting stations in Agadez, Arlit, In-Gall and Bilma; radio relay systems; extension of the Niamey television production center; the installation of color TV in the control room B; the creation of 250 community reception centers in the air area; telephone exchanges and urban networks; training actions for telecommunications and for the ORTN: the building of houses.

The total cost of Phase I is estimated at 287 million CFA francs. As for Phase II, the studies will be undertaken by the SOFRECOM, TDF and France Cable Radio. The program calls for the extension of the television network to Goure, Diffa, Nguigmi and Tahoua. The financing of this second phase will take place once the engineering consultants have submitted their preliminary studies.

CSO: 5500

WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

TALKS OPENED IN BELGRADE--Belgrade, December 7 (TANJUG)--The preparatory group of the committee for cooperation among broadcasting organizations of nonaligned countries began work today in the Belgrade "Sava" Conference Centre. The fifth session of the committee will be held in Belgrade December 11 to 14. Participants in the preparatory group include the representatives of Iran, Iraq, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cuba, India, Peru, Tunisia and Yugoslavia as the host. During the next three days, the group will consider the development strategy, action programme and coordination of activities of nonaligned radio-TV organizations. Also considered will be the draft declaration of the second conference of nonaligned countries' broadcasting organizations to be held in Sierra Leone, in April 1980. [Text] [LD072046 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1714 GMT 7 Dec 79 LD]

YUGOSLAVIA, IRAQ TALKS-- Aleksandar Stanic, assistant federal secretary for information, and Taha Yasin 'Ali, under secretary of the Iraqi Ministry of Culture and Information, had talks in Baghdad yesterday on the possibilities for expanding bilateral cooperation in the field of information. The talks were part of the current preparations for signing a new program of cooperation in the field of information between the two friendly countries. Cooperation between the nonaligned countries in the field of information was also discussed. [Text] [Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 10 Dec 79 p 6 AU]

HUNGARY-CUBA RADIO COOPERATION--A protocol on technical cooperation in the field of radio broadcasting for the next 5-year period [1980-85] was signed this morning between Cuba and Hungary. The protocol calling for Hungarian cooperation for the development of Cuban radio broadcasting was signed by (Galos Hecknedas), director of radio in that European country. Conrado Zamora, vice president of the Cuban Radio and Television Institute, signed for Cuba. [Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Dec 79 FL]

'TANJUG' OFFICE IN TEHRAN--Tehran--Faik Dizdarevic, SFRY ambassador in the Islamic Republic of Iran, today visited the PARS Agency. Ambassador Dizdarevic and Mohammad Reza Sharif, director of the agency, talked about the possibilities of expanding not merely bilateral but also multilateral cooperation through the agency pool of nonaligned countries. The Iranian PARS Agency and TANJUG signed an agreement on cooperation at the end of last month. The director of the Iranian agency expressed satisfaction about TANJUG having opened a permanent correspondent's office in Tehran. [Text] [LD190422 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 18 Dec 79 LD]

SRV-IRAQ COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOL--Hanoi 21 Dec VNA--A protocol on radio and TV cooperation between Vietnam and Iraq was signed in Hanoi yesterday: Signatories were Nguyen Van Phuc, representing the Vietnam Radio and Television Commission, and Samen N. Sarsen, on behalf of the Iraqi broadcasting and television establishment. The signing of the document was witnessed by Tran Lam, chairman of the Vietnam Radio and TV Commission, and Iraqi Charge d'Affaires A. I. 'Abd al-Muhsin M. [as received] Said. [Text] [OW210726 Hanoi VNA in English 0705 GMT 21 Dec 79 OW]

CSO: 5500

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

MORE RADIO STATIONS PLANNED--The 3-day festival of the 40th anniversary of the founding of Dacca Radio Station was formally opened today. The vice president, Justice Abdus Sattar, inaugurated it. Speaking on the occasion, the information and broadcasting minister, Habidullah Khan, said more broadcasting houses will be set up throughout the country in the near future. He said work on the construction of radio stations at Thakuraon, Comilla and Rangamati will begin soon. The information minister said the work of the National Broadcasting House will start next year with the help of a (?friendly) country. He particularly mentioned Japan and the NHK--the Japanese Broadcasting Corporation--[words indistinct] is also being built with the help fo the UNDP. The information and broadcasting minister said a new broadcasting house was opened in Khulna this year and another 1 kilowatt radio station at Sylhet will be opened early next year. [Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Dec 79 BK]

CSO: 5500

INDIA

NEW DELHI-MOSCOW SATELLITE LINK BY 1981

Madras THE HINDU in English 11 Dec 79 p 10

[Text] New Delhi, Dec. 10. New Delhi will be linked to Moscow by satellite by the end of 1980 or the beginning of 1981.

This is one of the decisions taken at a coordination meeting of telecommunication experts from the Meteorological Services of India, the Soviet Union, Egypt and the World Meteorological Organisation, Geneva, which has just concluded here.

The meeting decided to switch over the new Delhi-Moscow main trunk circuit segment to a high speed data circuit via satellite. Its speed will be 3,000 words or more per minute as against 1,500 words per minute on the radio circuit at present.

The meeting, sponsored by the World Meteorological Organisation, reviewed the present operational and technical status of telecommunication set up of the regional telecommunication hubs at New Delhi, Cairo and the World Meteorological Centre at Moscow as well as the main trunk circuit systems connecting these centres under the "World Weather Watch" programme.

The experts took important decisions on further improving these segments for smoother and faster exchange and distribution of meteorological data and processed information.

The meeting appreciated India's plan for launching the Geostationary Satellite (INSAT-I) in early 1981 which will be a multipurpose satellite with a meteorological component. It hoped that the satellite would contribute a great deal to the "World Weather Watch Programme" particularly to the countries in the area to be covered by it.

Transmission of weather charts in digital form in place of pictorial transmission was also discussed at the meeting which was inaugurated by Dr P. K. Das, Director General of Meteorology.--PTI.

CSO: 5500

BRIEFS

TV RELAY STATION AT KODAI--Madras, Dec. 6. The Tamil Nadu Government has gifted some land at Kodaik-kanal to the Union Government for setting up a relay station to transmit television programmes broadcast from Madras, said Mr R. M. Veerappan, Information Minister, here on Wednesday. The relay station, to come up shortly, would enable the people of five districts, including Madurai, Tiruchi, Tirunelveli and Ramanathapuram, to benefit from the television programmes broadcast by Madras Doordarshan, he said. Mr Veerappan, was launching the sale here of the television receiver manufactured by Keltron at a function held at Rajaji Hall. Mr K. A. Krishnaswami, Minister for Cooperation, said television was a vital instrument against the battle of illiteracy. Mr K. P. P. Nambiar, Keltron Chairman, said a closed circuit television would be installed shortly at the Meenambakkam airport. There was tremendous scope for developing the electronic industry, which was still in its nascent stage in India, he said. Mr Prem Nazir, congratulated Keltron on providing employment to many people in Kerala, Mr S. K. Banerjee, Manager, Keltron, Madras, proposed a vote of thanks. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Dec 79 p 12]

CSO: 5500

WHITE PAPER ON COMMUNICATIONS PRESENTED

OW140229 Tokyo KYODO in English 0158 GMT 14 Dec 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 14 Dec, KYODO--Reflecting domestic business improvement, total revenues of communication services in the country, including posts and telecommunications, in fiscal 1978 ended last March rose 6.4 percent over the previous year to yen 5,416 billion.

This was revealed in the annual white paper on communications reported to the cabinet Friday by Posts and Telecommunications Minister Masao Onishi.

The white paper, whose main theme was "communications and contemporary culture," said 14.2 billion domestic postal items were handled by post offices across the nation in fiscal 1978. This was 4.3 percent more than in the previous year and a record high figure, it added.

The number of households and business establishments paying television viewing fees to the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) also increased 2.2 percent to 28.4 million, it said.

It said the number of telephone subscribers increased 3.8 percent to 36.4 million.

Among major changes in the communications sector in fiscal 1978, the white paper noted the introduction of multiplex TV broadcasting enabling viewers with sound multiplex receivers to listen to bilingual and stereophonic programs.

It said progress was made in establishing a structure for commercializing space communications and in preparation for experiments on the Character and Pattern Telephone Access Information Network (Captains) system.

The posts and telecommunications ministry licensed NHK and 11 commercial television broadcasting companies between September 1978 and last March to engage in multiplex TV broadcasting.

The number of postal items handled by post offices surpassed the prewar level of 4.8 billion in 1955 and has been increasing annually, reaching a record figure in fiscal 1978.

The white paper said telephone direct-dialing capability was achieved nationwide in the fiscal year.

It said the dissemination rate of TV sets rose on a nationwide level due to the construction of microwave relay network and reduction in prices of TV sets due to developments in integrated circuits and other electronic technology.

As for the future, the white paper predicted that new information media will be put to practical use.

They include sending and receiving of letters and images by facsimile, diversification of TV and radio broadcasting using ultra high frequency (UHF) and frequency modulation (FM) as well as establishments of universities of the air.

Other new information media mentioned in the white paper include the Captains System in which characters and images are transmitted by phone for display on ordinary TV receivers.

The posts and telecommunications ministry has already started experiments on the system.

CSO: 5500

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

DIRECT DIALING CAPABILITY--December 2: Quetta has been linked through telephoto service with Karachi, Lahore and Rawalpindi, it was officially announced here today by the Telephone and Telegraph Department. The Federal Minister for Communications Mr Mohyuddin Baluch, will inaugurate the telephoto service at the Telephone House Quetta tomorrow. APP adds: Pakistan will be linked with the rest of the world through international direct dialling by early next year and in this connection all arrangements were in final stages. Mr Mohyuddin Baloch said here on his arrival from Islamabad at the Quetta airport that the Sukkur-Quetta microwave would be operative by March next and with the commissioning of this microwave more communication channels would be available for the public. [Text]
[Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 3 Dec 79 p 12]

CSO: 5500

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

BRIEFS

TV ADVERTISING--Beijing, 30 Dec (XINHUA)--A company which will handle Chinese and foreign advertising for broadcast by China's central television station has begun operations in Beijing. Called China Television Service, the company will also make television films and video programmes jointly with foreign television or commercial organizations, purchase and sell television films and video programmes, and process 16 mm colour films for Chinese or foreign customers. In addition, it will handle international satellite transmissions of television programmes and provide technical services to foreign television crews shooting in China. [Text] [OW301038 Beijing XINHUA in English 0645 GMT 30 Dec 79 OW]

LIAONING TV STATION--With the approval of the Central Broadcasting Administrative Bureau, the Shenyang TV station began presenting TV programs on 3 December on Channel 2. [SK100615 Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 3 Dec 79 SK]

CSO: 5500

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

HUNGARY-CSSR TV AGREEMENT--The staging of national evenings, the commemoration of each other's national holidays, exchanging the experiences of staff members, the exchange of news, visits by camera teams and cooperation in productions will be made possible by the cooperation agreement signed on Friday [9 November] in Budapest by Richard Nagy, chairman of Hungarian television, and Dr Jan Zelenka, central director of Czechoslovak television. Also, the guiding principles for exchanging programs are laid down in the document. [Text] [Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 10 Nov 79 p 5 AU]

CSO: 5500

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

BRIEFS

NEW TELEVISION TRANSMITTERS--Another two transmitters for the second television channel--Ostrava-Hostalkovice and Jesenik-Praded--were put in operation in northern Moravia today. The ceremonious commissioning was attended by Vlastimil Chalupa, federal minister of communications. Both transmitters, each of 20-kilowatts output, were produced by the Tesla National Enterprise, and meet the parameters for color transmission. The reconstruction of the Ostrava-Hostalkovice transmitter required an expenditure of kcs 83 million, and the new Jesenik-Praded transmitter was built at a cost of kcs 106 million. [Text] [LD171602 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 2100 GMT 15 Dec 79 LD]

CSO: 5500

YUGOSLAVIA

BRIEFS

SOCIALIZING RADIO, TELEVISION--Today in Pristina, Mahmut Bakali, president of the Provincial Committee of the League of Communists of Kosovo, received representatives of the organizations of the League of Communists of all radio and television centers of Yugoslavia. These representatives are attending a consultative conference on the essential aspects of socialization of radio and television. In this connection, Mahmut Bakali pointed out the importance of the socialization of public information media. Dobroslav Culafic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, was one of the speakers at the conference. He characterized the socialization of the public information media as one of the essential components of the struggle for the socialist self-managing relations and democratization. [Text] [AU171434 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 16 Nov 79 AU]

CSO: 5500

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

CARICOM MEETING IN ANTIGUA--All 12 Caribbean Community governments have agreed to participate in the inaugural meeting of CARICOM information ministers in Antigua, which is scheduled to take place between 12 and 14 February of next year. Antigua proposed the meeting some 2 months ago with a view to establishing mechanisms for improving communications among CARICOM governments and avoiding what the Antigua information minister has termed a crisis of confrontation between regional states. The proposed conference will be preceded by a meeting of information officials at which Caribbean publishers and broadcasters will be invited to present statements. [Text] [FL122102 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 12 Dec 79 FL]

CSO: 5500

TELEPHONE DEMANDS TO BE MET WITHIN 4 YEARS

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 23 Nov 79 p 12

[Text] The secretary of communications, Brig Gen Eduardo Oscar Corrado, expressed the opinion that the demand related to orders for telephone service may be met within 3 or 4 years. However, the military official explained that the total demand cannot be met, "because as that demand is fulfilled, the requests will increase and people will want more telephones."

General Corrado who, last night, made statements on a news program carried by a television channel in this capital, cited as an example the fact that the plan for installing 2 million lines started in 1976, which was intended to meet the present and future demand for the next 10 years, had to be revised to increase the program by nearly 300,000 lines per year, "so that we may be covered for the increase that will occur in demand."

The Interconnecting System

In response to a question, he explained that the situation in Buenos Aires was quite unique. "In the federal capital, particularly, and in Greater Buenos Aires, we would gain nothing by continuing the installation of telephones and exchanges; because if we continue at this rate, by 1981 no one will be able to communicate regardless of how many exchanges and telephones are installed."

He added: "The problem in the city of Buenos Aires is highly complex and, rather than install exchanges and telephones, we must expand the interconnecting system between those exchanges. And also (and for this we have the famous digital belt), we must offer an alternative to all communications facilities; because if we do not, what we are experiencing now as a lack of tone could by 1981 reach the point of complete lack of communication."

'There Were Many Complaints As Early as 1930'

General Corrado subsequently remarked (in response to a question) that he did not believe that the shortcomings in telephone service began in 1946. "I

think that they preceded that date, despite the fact that, in that year, the service rendered was in private hands. The telephone problem is a historical one. There were many complaints as early as 1930, and I have records in the company; complaints that were made by the entities themselves, and by the Chamber of Deputies. I mean to say that, in the final years of private operation, there were already many problems; because the concessions which the private companies had were not real concessions that gave them legal security for rendering services, and the operations took place in the most profitable areas, but the country did not actually have communication."

100,000 Telephones Out Of Order

Then the official gave a reminder of the company's situation in 1976, after which he noted that, in March 1977, there were 110,000 telephones out of order in the federal capital, while the delay in repairs was virtually 360 days. He said that now, as of this date, despite the recent rainfall, we have 5,000 telephones; and he added that the average repair at present may be expected to take under 45 days.

Annual Investments

On another topic, General Corrado disclosed that ENTEL [National Telecommunications Company] is making total investments of about \$500 million per year, both in new plants and maintenance; explaining that the latter is not profitable for the company, although it is for the service.

The communications secretary also said that ENTEL's budget is balanced, and will continue to be. On a different subject he argued that this is one of the companies which has most resolutely attacked peripheral private ownership.

Data Processing and Electronics

At 1800 hours today, the communications secretary will speak at the closing of the French-Argentine Meetings on Data Processing and Electronics, held by the Secretariat of Development at 651 Julio A. Roca, in the Industrial Diagonal.

2909

CSO: 5500

ENTEL RELEASES FIGURE EARMARKED FOR EXPANSION PROJECTS

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 23 Nov 79 p 13

[Text] The budgetary estimate made by the National Telecommunications Company [ENTEL] for expanding the present system of coaxial cable amounts to a total of 26,386,980,000 pesos. At a "very early" date, the company will call for bids on providing, installing and putting it into operation.

The existing coaxial cable covers the area from General Pacheco (Buenos Aires Province) to Canada de Gomez (Santa Fe Province); and it will be extended at one end as far as the Cuyo powerplant in this capital, and, at the other, as far as the city of Cordoba. This will increase the interconnecting facilities between Buenos Aires and the Cordoban capital; while simultaneously increasing the long-distance service in the localities covered by the future line. The system will afford an alternate route for the radio hookup system to which it will run parallel. In this regard, the future operation of a new satellite telecommunications station in Cordoba is significant.

Long-Distance Dialing

ENTEL signed a contract with the Italian company Italtel, and with the Argentine firm, Loiacono Construction, for supplying installing and putting into operation a "modem" mutliplex channel telephone service, in stages, over a period of 4 years.

The project was contracted for with national investments totaling 3,706,563,500 pesos, and \$4,872,616 worth of imported materials. The equipment to be installed will make it possible to increase the long-distance lines, affording continuation of the plan to expand the national long-distance dialing service.

Lack of Communication

During the past few days, it has been noted that telephone subscribers in the southern part of the country are having trouble in receiving calls from those in the city of Buenos Aires.

According to a report from ENTEL, the problem originated with flaws in the work done by the contracting firm Yecsa, which are the reason for interference with major telephone cables in the downtown area of this capital, causing lack of communication for a considerable number of subscribers.

Explanation

ENTEL addressed the retirees and pensioners of the company to explain that "the compulsory nature of the benefits offered by the National Institute for Social Works is no obstacle to the continuance of the services rendered by the firm's social service entity." It announced that, if the members want to give up the ENTEL social service, they can make the necessary arrangements on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 0800 to 1500 hours, at 2740 Cangallo, in the capital, or in the social service entity's areas and subordinate agencies.

2909

CSO: 5500

BIDS OPEN FOR NEW TELEPHONE LINES FOR FORMOSA CITY

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 25 Nov 79 p 23

[Text] At 1000 hours tomorrow, at the National Telecommunications Company international bidding will be opened for supplying, installing and putting into service 351,900 telephone lines with semielectronic technology, accompanied by an option for an additional 200,000 lines over a 4-year period.

In the competition held a few months ago, eight groups of firms consisting of Argentine companies associated with others in the United States, Sweden, the Netherlands, Japan and France were prequalified to submit bids.

According to a report, at the end of 4 years the state company will be in a position to contract directly with the awarded group for a supply of 150,000 lines per year, over a period of 11 years.

The semielectronic technology consists of equipment regulated by computers and control systems using a stored program, which affords several advantages for the user, such as the identification and location of calls, international long-distance dialing, etc.

In Formosa

The general administrator of the National Telecommunications Company, Col Luis Alberto Amallo, opened 3,000 telephone lines for public service in the city of Formosa.

The equipment will raise the capacity of the exchange to 5,000 subscriber lines and 50 public telephones; but the building may house as many as 30,000 lines in the future.

Through a connection with the Interurban Automatic Center in Resistencia, direct communication by long distance dialing may be obtained with over 120 locations in the country, as well as with Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. In the near future, the long-distance dialing connection will be provided with the localities of Pirane and El Colorado.

When the equipment was provided, 400 telephones were connected; by the end of the year they will have totaled 1,000; and, in 1980, all requests will have been fulfilled. The investment made by ENTEL amounts to about 7.321 billion pesos.

In Banfield and Villa Carlos Paz

The day after tomorrow, in Villa Carlos Paz, Cordoba, there will be an opening of 1,600 additional telephone lines, which required an investment of 4,648,512,000 pesos; increasing the installed capacity to 3,000 lines. In 1982, it will be raised again with another 2,000 units.

Also, on 29 November, a telephone unit consisting of 10,000 lines will go into service in Banfield, in Buenos Aires Province, at a cost of 16,155,194,000 pesos.

The installed equipment has a capacity for housing up to 40,000 lines in the future. This exchange will operate with characteristic 248, and will have metered and long-distance dialing service.

Grants

ENTEL has offered grants to young people under 18 years of age who have passed the third year of the basic course and who want to specialize in careers as telecommunications technicians. Those interested should visit the ENTEL Training Institute at 1157 Avenida de Mayo, 13th floor, from 0900 to 1200 hours.

2909

CSO: 5500

SAN JUAN INAUGURATES TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Dec 79 p 15

[Text] San Juan--In the middle of this month, the Mogote-Los Corralitos telecommunications plant at the top of Pie de Palo hill, 3,200 meters above sea level will be opened. There is a possibility that this ceremony may be led by the national chief executive, Gen (ret) Jorge Rafael Videla; because he originally promised to attend the dedication of the cathedral, which will take place on 16 December.

This plant was built by the provincial government, for the purpose of providing the entire interior of the province with telecommunications service which has been lacking thus far owing to the topographical features of the San Juan soil.

The operational equipment and the antenna have already been installed, making it possible to establish clear optical lines in all directions up to a distance of 150 kilometers which can be covered with high-frequency (VHF) and ultra-high frequency (UHF) waves, without having to resort to repeaters in sections lacking in electric power to feed the equipment.

The repetition of VHF frequency television signals has been received quite clearly in the departments of Iglesia, Calingasta, Jachal, Valle Fertil and armiento, as well as in the localities of Chepes and Malanzan, in La Rioja.

The plant will also have high-frequency equipment for the telephony and telex beaming, with an initial capacity of 24 channels, to provide service to the interior of the province, including the El Pachon copper deposit located in the middle of the mountain range.

In the future, the national system may be linked from the Jachal terminal with La Rioja and Catamarca, thus closing a circuit which extends throughout the entire central and western part of the country. The communications system to be installed from Mogote-Los Corralitos will enable the Army, National Guard, police and Air Force, and even data on seismic movements, to be transmitted, using their VHF and UHF repeaters.

2909

CSO: 5500

BRAZIL

SATELLITE USING MAINLY NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TO BE LAUNCHED IN 1986

Brazilian Space Mission

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Nov 79 p 13

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos--Brazil will be the fourth country capable of producing launching and maintaining a satellite in space--the others are the United States, France and the Soviet Union. In the meantime, it remains to be learned what technology will be utilized: American, French or Brazilian. The decision belongs to the Brazilian Space Activities Commission (COBAE), which has been meeting since yesterday at the National Space Research Institute (INPE) in Sao Jose dos Campos in the Second Seminar on Space Activities.

On Friday, the members of COBAE, which is headed by General Samuel Alves Correa, minister-chief of the Armed forces General Staff (EMFA), will establish the Third Basic Scientific and Technological Plan that is going to determine the Brazilian space mission for the period 1980-85. The satellite will be developed by INPE during that period and launched in mid-1986 at Barreira do Inferno, propelled by Sonda IV, a rocket being developed by the Space Activities Institute, an agency of the Aerospace Technology Center (CTA) in Sao Jose dos Campos.

If the choice of technology for the satellite depended only on the chief of the EMFA, it would be national. In the speech at the opening of the seminar, General Alves Correa expressed his confidence that the other members of COBAE (composed of civilian and military scientists) "will take into proper account the fact that that it is essential to reduce the country's foreign dependence in the field of space research and activities."

The satellite will be used to survey national resources such as agronomical, forestal, hydraulic and mineral resources, to survey the sea and land use--in urban planning, that is, when the satellite goes into operation, agricultural areas will be studied to estimate harvests, identify reforested areas and control deforested areas; evaluate transit conditions; establish biological parks; to locate maritime areas containing fish; and to detect pollutants in coastal waters.

INPE director Nelson Jesus Farada reported that "the program depends on a timetable that will have to be approved by the president of the republic, after it is prepared by COBAE." If the decision is positive, its development will be in January 1980.

The satellite will weigh approximately 120 kilos and the combination of satellite and launchers involves the development of several techniques, from composition and production to the maintenance of space and tracking the trajectory in orbit.

The Sao Paulo Cachoeira station will be responsible for tele-control, following the changes of position of the vehicle in space, its orbit, and collecting the data transmitted by it.

Predominantly National Technology

Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Nov 79 p 6

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos--COBAE has decided to opt for a telecommunications satellite with 85 percent national technology, support also by German, French, U. S. and Japanese cooperation, the president of COBAE, General Samuel Alves Correa, minister-chief of the general staff of the armed forces, announced yesterday.

COBAE's decision and conclusions about the project which, if carried out, will make Brazil the fourth nation to have a telecommunications satellite in orbit, will now be sent to President Figueiredo, who is responsible for making the decision on implementation and the allocation of funds for the project.

The national satellite is to be developed jointly by the INPE and the CTA, with the participation of national industry in supplying the parts. According to General Alves Correa, the costs of the project have not yet been estimated because they are dependent on several studies.

The chief of EMRA revealed also that definite costs will be established by next year "in order to begin implementation." He revealed further that on 16 January 1980, COBAE will hold another meeting in Sao Jose dos Campos, "this time we will already have the decision of the president of the republic on the project."

8711

CSO: 5500

BRAZIL

GOVERNMENT MAY AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL MINICOMPUTER PLANTS

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Dec 79 p 25

[Text] Sao Paulo--The government may authorize the creation of new minicomputer plants in addition to the five that already exist in the country "as long as they do not employ a technology much different from that which the Brazilian computer industry is presently using." That was the principal revelation of the head of the recently created Special Secretariat of Informatics (SEI), Octavio Gennari Netto, who granted a press interview yesterday in Sao Paulo, when he explained the structure of the new government agency.

Constantly repeating that "our concern is to structure the SEI," Gennari Netto declared that he plans to create a market reserve to guarantee that national companies can market their equipment without the interference of multinational competitors. Another aspect pertaining to manufacture concerns converting the Brazilian Computer Company (COBRA) into a private enterprise.

"The secretariat plans to study the advisability of the continuation of government participation in the enterprises. Each case of conversion to private control will be studied separately."

Structure of the SEI

Thus far, the secretary of informatics already has four names of the persons who will comprise the management of the new agency: Colonel Joubert de Oliveira Brizida, executive secretary; Guilherme Hatab, industrial subsecretary; Henrique Costabele, subsecretary for services, and Jackson Guedes, studies and planning. As for the Brazilian Data-Processing Company (DIGIBRAS), it is expected that the composition of its board of directors will be announced by the 10th of the month.

Speaking about future studies of import requests, Gennari Netto declared that "we will try to act as soon as possible, giving priority to the requests of greater national interest." The new special secretary announced that the import quota for the sector next year will be equal to last year's: \$130 million.

"We are requesting an increase in that estimate, which was not enough to cover this year's needs. Simply to give an idea, on the 20th of last month we had 862 import requests pending, representing \$98 million. For next year, the requirements of the national and multinational companies for purchases abroad determined up to now total \$137 million.

8711

CSO: 5500

BRAZIL

EMBRATEL TO EXPAND TELEX NETWORK

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Nov 79 p 14

[Text] The president of the Brazilian Telecommunications Company (EMBRA-TEL), Helvecio Gilson, said in Rio yesterday that one of the company's main goals for next year will be expansion of the national telex network with a view to supporting the government's plan to aid agricultural activities, with the dissemination of reports on harvests for the farmers in various parts of the country.

He explained, "We will thereby be decidedly contributing to eliminating the middlemen, who end up increasing the price of foodstuffs." He added that in 1980 the National Telematic Plan will be established in 30 Brazilian cities, putting into operation the transdata service, linked to the network of data transmission by computer.

The statements were made at the luncheon at the military club given by the Brazilian Telecommunications Association to commemorate the 15th anniversary of EMBRATEL. After his speech, Helvecio was awarded "Teleco Medal of Merit." The luncheon was attended by the directors of the main companies and organizations in the telecommunications area.

In his speech, the president of EMBRATEL reviewed the company's activities during the last 14 years, declaring that "created in 1965, EMBRATEL at the outset faced the challenge of giving the country in a very short period a telecommunications system in keeping with the stage of development then achieved. In a period of approximately 5 years, a large part of the national basic network was established; at the same time, the link with the international system of telecommunications via satellite was established through the Tangua ground station."

He declared also that "beginning in 1982, there is envisaged for the national telex network the use of modern equipment of the most advanced technology, with medium and large computer-programmed exchanges on a larger scale, microprocessors to take care of distant localities, a telex/data network and families of electronic teleprinters for telex and data at various speeds."

According to him, to take care of large organizations, EMBRATEL has established the computerized system for the automatic retransmission of messages, which operates as a public international telegraphic exchange, in addition to offering private service for the retransmission of messages to different companies on the national level. "Since data communication constitutes the whole complex of functions of transmission of information codified in digital form and the codification and conversion necessary for this transmission," he explained, "EMBRATEL is providing telex and Sicram services and establishing the data transmission (transdata) service.

8711

CSO: 5500

NICARAGUA

BRIEFS

TELEPHONE IMPORTS BAN--The National Telecommunications and Postal Directorate [TELCOR] has issued a communique informing the people that importing single-line telephones for domestic use is banned. These telephones, the communique added, are being exclusively imported by TELCOR, and it is the only body authorized to sell them. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Dec 79 PA]

CSO: 5500

ANTEL EXPERTS DISCLOSE TELEPHONE SERVICE PLANS

Service By City

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 8 Nov 79 p 5

[Text] The experts from ANTEL [National Telecommunications Administration] described the status of the telephone system and the plans which the entity has devised for the future. They said that in Montevideo the wearing out of equipment due to years of use and old cable has caused the main problems, and announced that, in 1980, 3,000 connections will be made in the downtown area, and 4,500 in Pocitos, Union, Cordon and Aguado; in addition to 60 satellite channels to be established with the external area. Following is the dialog held with the experts from ANTEL:

[Question] Generally speaking, what is the present status of telephones in Montevideo?

[Answer] In order to operate, the urban telephone service needs four major groups of components: the equipment for the exchange, the general cables (aerial and underground), the individual line for each subscriber and the telephone set.

Each one of them has a certain useful life, and if they are not replaced their operativeness is no longer reliable, and defects appear more often than is normal.

In Montevideo, the general cables are old and, therefore, when they are damaged by water seepage, there are complete interruptions in service over extensive areas, or the communications between exchanges are hampered.

The exchange equipment (sensitive mechanisms in constant motion) is also very worn, thereby causing wrong numbers, communications that are joined together or cut off, delays in obtaining the dial tone or making calls, noise in conversations, etc. It must be taken into consideration that 40 percent of the equipment is between 25 and 40 years old, and 17 percent has been in use for over 40 years.

Finally, the individual lines and defective sets can leave the subscriber without service.

At the end of their useful life, all these components should be replaced, either totally or partially. For several years, when the country suffered a shortage of foreign exchange, it was impossible to import spare parts for exchanges or new general cables. None of these components are manufactured in the country.

Since the creation of ANTEL 5 years ago, the replacement plan has been intensified, but the task is of such dimensions that it will be another several years before the defects disappear. Over 20,000 individual lines have already been changed, and the all the main hookup cable between exchanges has been protected with the injection of pressurized dry air. The latter measure has made it possible for only one large main cable to break down during the past 2 years, as an exception, and therefore without causing a complete stoppage in communications.

With the new systems in Centenario, Pocitos and the downtown exchange area, it is expected that part of the problem will be solved by 1980 or 1981.

With regard to the exchanges, a complete renovation should be made in most of them, and to accelerate this it is planned to contract for this work with the companies which manufacture and install the equipment themselves, during 1980. In addition, there will be a continued replacement of equipment over 40 years old and, subsequently, of that which is not so old but which has become obsolescent.

Without Total Stoppage

[Question] Why do weather phenomena, such as rain, wind, etc., cause an almost automatic stoppage of the possibility of communicating with certain areas?

[Answer] This is partially due to what has been said previously. We repeat, for nearly 2 years there have been no total stoppages of the possibility of communicating between the various exchanges. Also, there are seldom failures in the large subscriber cables; and hence, but for a few exceptions (often situations caused by third parties), there is no lack of communication with large areas, not even when there is heavy rainfall.

It is true that heavy rain, wind, etc., cause damage to individual lines or aerial cables which have a low capacity and are exposed to electrical discharge, frequent contact with trees, etc. In such instances, there is a blockage of isolated subscribers, or of those concentrated in small areas.

[Question] How many repairs are made per day?

[Answer] As has already been explained, repairs are being made in the exchanges, on the general cables, in the subscriber lines and on the sets.

The number of repairs on cables, individual lines and sets varies, depending on whether they are done on days with good weather or on days after rain or wind. In the latter case, they reach peaks of between 4,000 and 5,000 subscribers per day, who have a failure for all kinds of reasons; and these are repaired in accordance with the potential of the service personnel. The capacity for repairing general cables is about 40 per day. Also, it is possible to repair about 400 individual lines and sets per day.

As for the failures in exchanges (blockage with other subscribers, continuous ringing, burned out fuses, etc.), the number per day depends more on the traffic than on the rainfall. It is possible to repair from 500 to 700 breakdowns per day.

Four Zones Stricken

[Question] Which zones are hardest hit?

[Answer] The zones hardest hit are several, depending on the type of failure involved. The defects in medium and small capacity cables are most common in areas in which they have little protection, because they are in aerial sections. In this regard, the most complicated zones are Colon, Paso, Union and Carrasco.

The failures in subscriber lines occur more often in the same zones, including Aguada, and for the same reasons. In the downtown area there are serious problems of maintenance for lines, owing to the countless lights and marquees, etc.

Finally, the failures in exchanges occur more often on badly worn equipment, such as that in Cordon, Aguada, Pocitos (78) and Paso.

It should be noted that the problems in the downtown area (90, 91 and 98) in obtaining a dial tone or making a call are due largely to the excessive number of calls during hours of great business activity, and also to a considerable extent, the artificial tie-up caused by users who, without touching the hook, do not wait for the call signal to appear, or who leave the phone off the hook to obtain the free signal, but then lose this opportunity by not dialing immediately, thereby causing ineffective use of the recorders in the exchange.

New Long-Distance Dialing Areas

[Question] When will other Montevideo exchanges become incorporated into the national microwave (long-distance dialing) system?

[Answer] In early 1980, the subscribers in level 90 of the downtown exchange will be incorporated. At the beginning of the second quarter, the subscribers in Carrasco whose number is between 50,000 and 50,3999 will be included.

Completing the service, all of Cordon will begin to have teleselection in the second half of next year.

[Question] What is next?

[Answer] The answer has already been given that it will be downtown (level 90).

[Question] When will the Peninsula (Montevideo) and Centenario exchanges be opened?

[Answer] The Montevideo Peninsula exchange (which has been named "Ciudad Vieja" will be equipped early in 1980.

The incorporation of the zone's subscribers will be completed in about 3 months. Virtually the same deadlines apply to Centenario.

7,500 New Connections

[Question] What benefits will be accrued from their equipment?

[Answer] Ciudad Vieja will reduce the traffic in the downtown zone, and will afford connections for about 3,000 applicants. Centenario will make it possible for connections to be provided for 4,500 applicants in Pocitos, Union, Cordon and Aguada. In Ciudad Vieja, the cable system will be revamped, using the new underground wiring system that has been installed; and, in the case of Centenario, a completely new system is being made with plastic cables used for the first time in our country.

[Question] When will all the departmental capitals and the main population centers in the interior section of the country be incorporated into the long-distance dialing system?

[Answer] The extension of the long-distance dialing system is linked with the construction of new microwave systems and automatic interurban exchanges for which the design and bidding stages have already been completed, and hence they are included in the current contracts. In the near future, it is planned to incorporate the following into this service:

Piriapolis and El Pinar, early 1980; San Jose and Carrasco, mid-1980; Soly-mar, Salto, Paysandu, Minas, Mercedes, Fray Bentos and San Carlos, late 1980; Rivera, Tacuarembó, Artigas, Durazno and Trinidad, mid-1981; Pando, late 1981; Melo and Treinta y Tres, mid-1982.

It should be explained that:

a. There is already long-distance dialing between the exchanges in Salto and Paysandu.

b. There is partial service from Minas, Mercedes and Fray Bentos, because their subscribers can dial long-distance, but they cannot receive long-distance dialed calls from the exchanges with total service, which are: Montevideo (except for Cordon, part of Carrasco and downtown), Las Piedras, La Paz, Canelones, San Jose, Florida, Atlantida, Salinas, Parque del Plata, Rocha, Maldonado, Punta del Este, La Barra, Portezuelo and Colonia.

[Question] When will this system be installed between Montevideo and Buenos Aires?

[Answer] Although it is intended to start the service before the end of the year, the date will have to be confirmed later, because it depends to a large extent on matters to be coordinated with ENTEL [National Telecommunications Company] of Argentina.

Italian Satellite Firm Assists

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 8 Nov 79 p 5

[Text] ANTEL has signed a contract with the Consorzio per Sistemi de Telecomunicazioni Via Satellite (STS) [Consortium for Satellite Telecommunications Systems] of Italy, for the supply and installation of a standard "B" ground station, and the necessary supplementary equipment for its operation.

The aforementioned station will be located in Manga, and will use the same antenna as the present TV receiver station, which was purchased by the private television companies of Montevideo, and is operated by ANTEL, through a contract.

The supplies include the ground station itself, the microwave radio hookup between Manga and Aguada (which is the international main exchange) and the equipment to be installed in the latter exchange, which will make it possible to operate both incoming and outgoing traffic.

When the station goes into service, which will occur within about 9 months, Uruguay will be able to communicate with complete independence beyond neighboring countries.

It will have direct telephone channels with West Germany, Canada, Spain, the United States, France and Italy; and communications can be established with all the rest of the world through the international centers in those countries.

Depending upon agreements which are being negotiated, incoming international long-distance dialing may be established; and, in an outgoing direction, automatic traffic may be carried out, through an operator, with those countries, either directly or, by passing through them, with the other countries that are connected to the international system.

2909

CSO: 5500

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

CONTROL OF MEDIA--Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has issued Presidium decree No 15/79, which provides for the abolition of the Ministry of Information. The Council of Ministers will take over supervision of the publishing, printing and distribution of 14 OCTOBER, as well as the information corporation and the Aden News Agency. The decree takes effect from the date of issue and will be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE. Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il has also issued decree No 16/79, which provides for the creation of a commission to be called the State Radio and Television Commission and to be under the Council of Ministers. The decree stipulates that the tasks and abilities of the State Radio and Television Commission and its organs as well as their financial, administrative and technical arrangements will be governed by regulations to be issued in accordance with Council of Ministers Law No 2/79. This decree takes effect from the date of issue and will be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE. [Text] [LD251646 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Dec 79 LD/EA]

CSO: 5500

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY—A meeting aimed at adopting practical forms for the formation of a Pan-African News Agency will be held in Lobito in the Province of Benguela next month. The formation of a Pan-African News Agency was decided at the OAU meeting of information ministers held in Addis Ababa this year. It was decided in Addis Ababa that the first meeting of the Pan-African News Agency will be held in the People's Republic of Angola. The agency will play an eminent role in the decolonization of information and will work for the new international order in the field of information. It is an instrument of the struggle of the African people to create a favorable condition for development and progress of the African countries. It will also train technicians and journalists. [Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 20 Dec 79 AB]

CSO: 4420

AMOUNT NEEDED TO RESOLVE ORTS PROBLEMS SET FORTH

Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 2 Nov 79 p 3

[Report of interview of minister of information, Mr Daouda Sow, following a cabinet meeting]

[Text] During the last Cabinet Council meeting, the prime minister, after the report of the minister of information and telecommunications in charge of relations with the Assemblies devoted to the problems of the Senegalese Radio and Television Office [ORTS], asked the departments concerned to speedily put into practice the emergency plan concerning radio and television. What is this really about?

Mr Daouda Sow, who received us Saturday morning, explained to us that 865 million CFA francs would be needed to make it possible for the Senegalese Radio and Television Officer to resolve the most urgent problems that it is facing, pending the application of the global plan for ORTS which is being studied by the French Television Broadcasting system.

The plans to be studied are in three tiers. As a first step, Radio House must be set up, while complete radio and television coverage for the whole territory of Senegal is developed; finally, the office must face the urgent problems, namely broadcasting, production and supporting staff.

In the field of broadcasting, it will be necessary to overhaul transmitters, which have mostly run out of breath so that they can no longer reach some areas of Senegal, and to make them more functional. In the sector of production, priority has been given to repairing studios and renovating their equipment. In matters of radio as well as television, a brief visit to these studios is enough to convince one of the courage of the journalists and promoters of ORTS, who daily face the suffocating heat and the rats who have taken up residence.

The television material--old cameras that still function miraculously, video equipment, including the van acquired in 1974 which spends most of its time undergoing repairs--all this will be replaced.

The report on the emergency plan to rescue ORTS, which was filed last July by the French Television Broadcasting system, allocates 865 million CFA

francs to all problems depending to a large extent on rapid availability of the necessary credits, to be distributed as follows: radio broadcasting, 240 million (80 million for production, 120 for transmission, and 40 million for regional stations), television, 625 million for repairs on the only studio, the electronic installations of the studio and the video-mobile (reporting van).

"The proposal contained in this report are those which we want the government to adopt by the end of the year," the minister of information told us. He added that the sooner the financial means are made available for this very necessary rescue of ORTS, the better.

9347

CSO: 5500

BRIEFS

SATELLITE STATION--The new satellite earth station that receives and transmits international telephone, telegraph, telex and other communications messages throughout the day was yesterday commissioned by the acting first vice president, Mr A. B. Kamara. Situated at Wilberforce, the station is designed to meet the International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation (INTELSAT) standard specification. [Excerpt] [AB172040 Freetown DAILY MAIL in English 7 Dec 79 p 1 AB]

CSO: 5500

USSR

BRIEFS

BAM TELEVISION STATION—Workers building the BAM settlement of (Dzhalindra) have been given the opportunity to watch central television programs. An Ekran system satellite communications relay station was commissioned here yesterday. By 7 November television will also become available at the most outlying settlement of the central section of BAM—Mostovoy. [OW191055 Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 30 Oct 79 OW]

AMUR OBLAST TELEVISION—Some 96 percent of the population in Amur Oblast can presently view central television programs. This is 13 percent more than the Union average. More than 38 percent of the population can view all television programs. This year the Amur radio and television center installed 14 Ekran system relay stations. Today television was viewed for the first time in Mostovoy settlement, one of the most outlying settlements on the BAM. [OW191055 Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 5 Nov 79 OW]

CSO: 5500

FRANCE

CHINESE DELEGATION STUDIES AUDIO-VISUAL DATA TRANSMISSION

Paris ZERO UN INFORMATIQUE in French 5 Nov 79 pp 1, 9

[Text] The fact that a Chinese delegation has penetrated the high place of French research in audio-visual data transmission, the Centre Commun d'Etudes de Television et Telecommunications (CCETT) in Rennes, is no longer surprising in as much as high officials and teams of engineers from this country, which is very interested in this sector, have been following one another for 2 years. But the fact that the highest dignitary of the PRC, Mr Hua Kuo-Feng himself, decided to devote 1 hour out of a stay of 72 hours in France to this subject signifies that the rapid modernization of this country's telecommunications do not obsess the minds of only a few well-informed engineers.

Moreover, 2 weeks before, the Chinese minister of posts and telecommunications came to France and signed a draft agreement. This is the only draft agreement of this type which his administration has signed with a foreign administration. The entire board of directors of the CCETT--but also of course, Norbert Segard, secretary of state for posts and telecommunications, and Gerard Thery, general manager of telecommunications--lent a hand in explaining and demonstrating to the Chinese president these new services which have been spoken about unceasingly for the past few months. This center, this body created in 1971, usually originates new developments. Its exact role is: "to study and develop new techniques on the subject of the processing, transmission and handling of data and audio-visual signals." Transpac is an old story for it as the service has been initiated. Nevertheless, this system of transmission by parcels was mentioned several times in the speeches of both parties; the Chinese were keenly interested (a full-scale demonstration took place in Peking a few months ago). Another topic of the statements was the Telecom I and the direct television satellite. But what will remain in Hua Kuo-Feng's mind about this?

It is very obvious that what has both riveted his attention and been the subject of all his questions was data processing: first of all, the data processing in audiography, the system which combines image and sound by using different transmission mediums (here the telephonic system), and the data processing in the general dissemination telecopiers (Gerard Thery took advantage of this to point out that, from the predictions of his staff, one-

sixth of those subscribing to telephones will probably be equipped with this apparatus in 7 years). Only the Videotex could not be presented to him because of a lack of time. And yet the CCETT would probably have liked to give a general outline of the solutions which it is studying in order to improve this method of writing "in steps," a method which is not very aesthetic and sometimes hardly readable due to a weak resolution (80 by 72). Ten engineers from the "audio-visual systems and terminals" department are working steadily to increase this resolution.

The first solution is to derive inspiration from Telidon, the Canadian system (on 12 October, Paris and Ottawa decided, by means of a research agreement, to exchange their experience on the Videotex process), which is the basis of the primaries, geometrics or variants of the same solution, of telepoint which is created from a succession of small vectors. Either following the figure or the character to be formed is more satisfactory (the idea is a combination of the two); but the two methods together necessitate having in the terminal a screen memory of, not 16,000 bits as is the case for the step-based version, but 300,000 bits. The obvious danger is its higher cost.

The second solution is the "soft alphabet." Is the CCETT the originator of this idea? Nevertheless, a patent was filed in 1978. The basic principle is simple: to conceive a modular system, function by function, in which the characters are not permanently fixed but evolve according to the demand.

The advantage is that this version's terminal will only have to have available 10,000 additional bits, in relation to the basic version; the result is reduced additional cost. The disadvantage is that it will be necessary to send information concerning the characters which one wants to use before questioning; the result is a longer transmission time.

And if several people in the CCETT are leaning toward the second solution, it is obviously because the low cost of the terminal used would permit a much more rapid introduction of the Videotex to the general public.

9181

CSO: 5500

SPAIN

BRIEFS

SOLAR POWER FOR REPEATER STATION--The National Telephone Company has installed a solar energy unit to power the Montana Rajada (Tenerife) repeater station. This repeater station is part of the radiolink of Santa Cruz de Tenerife on Canadas del Teide. This power source is the first of its kind to be installed in Spain and the largest in existence. The Montana Rajada radio-telephone system was powered by two generators--one serving as a backup for the other--since it was put into operation in 1966. Generators were used because of a lack of power lines within a reasonable distance from the station. By the end of 1978 the need to replace the generators, due to the many operating hours of these units, and adopting a 24 volt solar energy unit was established. [Excerpts] [Madrid ABC in Spanish 6 Dec 79 p 11]

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